

Irminger Sea: R/V Knorr

Our floating home

The *Knorr* is the ship that will take us to our work site in the Irminger Sea.

Did you know that sailors always talk about their ships as if they were girls? They never refer to a ship as It, but always as She.

Here are some facts about the *Knorr*.

- She is 269 feet long and 46 feet wide. She is made mostly of steel and is 4 decks high.
- She was built in 1968 and has traveled more than a million miles—the equivalent of two round trips to the Moon or forty trips around the Earth.
- She is powered by two very large propellers.
- She has enough cabins and beds to sleep 56 people!
- She has many laboratories and special-purpose workspaces.
- She has a kitchen, a dining room, and even a library full of books!

On board the ship,

- The kitchen is called the galley.
- A door is called a hatch.
- The stairs are called ladders.
- The dining room is called the mess.
- A bed is called a bunk.
- A bathroom is called a head!



[Enlarge Image](#)

The research vessel *Knorr*. (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution)

Related Multimedia



R/V *Knorr*
Photos of the research vessel through the years.

[» View Slideshow](#)



360° view of *Knorr*'s Pilot House and Chart Room (QTVR by Tom Kleindinst, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution)

[» View Video \(Quicktime\)](#)

Ernest R. Knorr

R/V *Knorr* was named in honor of Ernest R. Knorr, a distinguished hydrographic engineer and cartographer who was appointed Chief Engineer Cartographer of the U.S. Navy Hydrographic office in 1860. Knorr was one of the leaders of the Navy's first systematic charting and surveying effort from 1860 to 1885.

Last updated: September 16, 2008

Copyright ©2007 Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, All Rights Reserved.

Mail: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, 266 Woods Hole Road, Woods Hole, MA 02543, USA.

E-Contact: info@whoi.edu; press relations: media@whoi.edu, tel. (508) 457-2000

Problems or questions about the site, please contact webdev@whoi.edu